

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT



Office of Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHILD SUPPORT INFORMATION FOR MILITARY OFFERED BY COURT AGENCY WEB PAGE

LANSING, MI, May 25, 2004 – The Friend of the Court Bureau, a division of the State Court Administrative Office, has launched a web page to assist members of the military with child support issues.

The site offers tips for child support payers in the National Guard and Reserve who are being called to active service. Daniel J. Wright, director of the Friend of the Court Bureau, said the agency “wants to help parents make the transition to active service without disrupting support to their children.”

“The transition to active service is difficult for everyone involved,” said Wright. “Our goal is to support those serving our country by providing information about child support issues.”

Wright added, “It’s critical that those who owe child support alert their county Friend of the Court office when they are called to active duty. Without this information, the Friend of the Court will not know that the parent’s address and employment status have changed.”

The site offers information on modifying child support payments for parents whose military pay will be less than their civilian income. Included are links to forms parents can use to petition courts to modify child support, as well as contact information for Friend of the Court offices.

Other topics include health care coverage for children, information for employers, and advice for reducing emotional stress on children and other family members affected by the transition to active duty.

The web page is available at <http://www.courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/focb/military.htm>.

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